wcaty

Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth
University of Wisconsin - Madison

ONLINE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Student Name:_____School:_____

School District:_____School Sponsor/GT Coordinator:_____

Prefered Student Gender: ☐F ☐M Grade Level:____Birthday:____/____/_____

Parent/Guardian Name:_____

Parent/Guardian Phone:_____Parent/Guardian Email:_____

Address:_____
            Street   City   State   Zip

CLASS CHOICES

Please fill in your first and second choice for Fall, Winter, and/or Spring.

	Fall:	1._____		Fall:	1._____
		2._____			2._____
	Winter:	1._____		Winter:	1._____
		2._____			2._____
	Spring:	1._____			
		2._____			

COST

The cost of an Academy course is $250. To provide your student with the choice of challenge, your district asks you to contribute $_____.
Discounts and scholarships are available to member schools.

STUDENT: I have read the back of the Online Program Application and will work to build a relationship with my online instructor(s) by directing my questions to him/her. I will work to follow Academy rules. If I do not, I understand that I may be asked to leave. I also understand that my data and survey responses may be used for evaluation and research purposes.

_____
student sign and date

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I hereby give WCATY permission to use, publish, and copyright photos, student work, and video footage of my child for promotion of future programs. I understand that student information may be used for research and evaluation. I have read the back of the Online Program Application and approve my child to participate in this course.

_____
parent/guardian sign and date

CLASSROOM TEACHER: I will release this student from classroom assignments and/or activities so that he/she can meet the challenge of this accelerated course.

_____
classroom teacher sign and date

SPONSOR: I will monitor this student's progress, make accommodations for online access, provide access to class books, coordinate transportation to face-to-face meetings, and assign official grades on behalf of the school district.

_____
sponsor sign and date

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A CHALLENGE WORTHY OF THEIR POTENTIAL

Academy courses are designed to dive more deeply and move more quickly than regular schoolwork. Both students and parents should be prepared for a different kind of challenge in this new academic environment. Most courses will have an extensive reading list, intensive writing, or a large project (and often a combination of the three!). The amount of work combined with the level of output produced by other WCATY students is often a new experience for our learners. Students are expected to spend 8 - 10 hours per week on coursework (including time spent in school). Generally, each Monday students are given weekly assignments and are expected to work at their own pace with the support of their instructor and school sponsor. The key is to keep in mind that these courses are intended to push students, but in a collaborative environment.

PROGRESS & ASSESSMENT

We provide midterm and final reports to your school sponsors. These reports give scores of 1-4 on benchmarks aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Instructors also provide feedback on student strengths and areas for improvement, with suggestions for what to do to sharpen those skills.

STUDENT DATA

As feedback is key to improving our programs, student data, online interactions, survey responses, and work may be used in evaluation and research studies. Identifiable information is separated from data used in evaluations and research, and our data security policies follow national regulations such as FERPA. Please let WCATY know if you would like your student's information to be excluded from our data set.

WHO TO CONTACT WITH YOUR QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ONLINE CURRICULUM, ASSIGNMENTS OR GRADING?

Contact your online instructor

QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE ENROLLMENT KEY OR USERNAME/ PASSWORD?

Contact the WCATY Help Desk: academyhelp@wcaty.web.org

QUESTIONS ABOUT REPORT CARD GRADES OR SCHOOL SUPPORT?

Contact your school coordinator or sponsor.

OTHER QUESTIONS?

Contact Rebecca Vonesh, Director of Online Programming wcaty@education.wisc.edu

Find course descriptions, face-to-face meeting dates, and course books online at www.wcaty.wisc.edu.

TACKLING THE CHALLENGE

STEP 1 Due to the intense nature of these courses, students must be interested in the topic and material to succeed. Prior to the course, students and parents should read the course description and booklist thoroughly to ensure a good match. Course summaries and syllabi are available upon request (check with your school sponsor).

STEP 2 The week before class starts, WCATY will send student usernames and The Academy User Guide to each school sponsor. This is a great time to log in to The Academy (https://academy2.wcatyweb.org) and become familiar with the online course space. It is also a good time to make sure your child has the course books and to note the dates of the three face-to-face meetings on your calendar.

STEP 3 During the course, parents are encouraged to ask their child to show them his/her online classroom! While parents do not have personal access to the Academy, they are welcome to look over their student's shoulder and become involved in their child's learning process.

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